SSG
Chapter 8
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Provider: amtt
Translator: AnimeAddict
Proofreader: bealovelylady
Cleaner: conwolf
Typesetter: bealovelylady
QCer: hemony
http://shoujosense.com

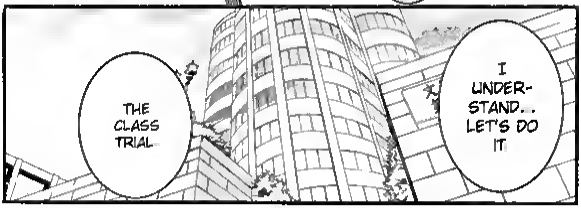
#8

IT MAY BE A BIT TOO DRAMATIC, BUT WE'RE GOING TO GATHER EACH OF THE SUSPECTS
AND CONFIRM WHAT REALLY HAPPENED.
...A CLASS TRIAL...
...
IT SHOULDN'T BE A PROBLEM IF WE BOTH BELIEVE IN OUR COMRADES RIGHT?

His eyes are unwavering
Believe in our com-rades..?

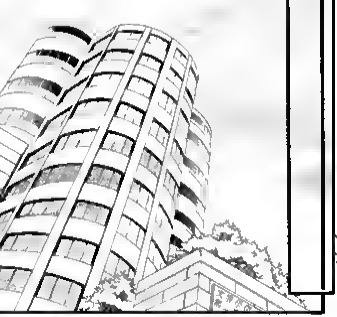
OF COURSE.

SO, YOU BELIEVE IN THEM.
THE SECOND DORM PEOPLE


I UNDER-STAND... LET'S DO IT
THE CLASS TRIAL

WHILE I WAS RUNNING AROUND FOR EVERYONE,
THE ANSWER CAME TO ME

Is it possible for me to believe?



This feeling that's overflowing from inside my heart..!

I wonder why.. I can't stay like this, not believing in the first dorm..

I really... could be Kondou Isami...

WHAT SHOULD WE DO, KANDA ?
EH?
AAH.
WELL WHAT WILL HAPPEN WILL HAPPEN
SHH
IT'S STAR-TING
ESPE-CIALLY IF HONGOU SWITCHES TO THAT SIDE IT'S
WAIT, KANDA IF EVEN YOU CAN SAY THAT, THEN ..
OH
SFX: SLAM
WE'RE STARTING!!

IT FEELS LIKE HE'S HOLDING A GRUDGE AGAINST ME
BUT I DIDN'T NEED A REASON TO
IT'S TRUE THAT I HIT HIM.
THE FIRST CASE WILL BE ABOUT THE INCIDENT WHERE GOKOKUJI HIT KANDA.
LET'S LISTEN TO HIS REASONING
Akiwa
I'M SORRY
CASE 1:
Why did Gokokuji hit Kanda?
SFX WHISPER
IF YOU SAY THAT THEN IT'S ALL OVER
THEN WE CAN SETTLE THIS CASE PROPERLY.
GOKOKUJI
IT'S BETTER IF YOU JUST GIVE SOME REASON
SFX RAISE
OTOWA'S BEEN PLAYING AROUND WITH KANDA SINCE NOON
I PURPOSELY SAID SOMETHING TO HIM THAT WOULD MAKE HIM MISUNDERSTAND THE SITUATION
I WAS THE ONE WHO SET HIM UP...
THAT GUY—
SFX WHISPER

DID YOU KNOW THAT, KANDA?

OTOWA... DO YOU STILL HAVE MY MEMORY CARD?

SOU-TA.

HONGOU IS THAT TRUE?

THEN STAY ON STAND-BY

IN FRONT OF GONG-KUJI'S ROOM

HON-GOU? WHERE ARE YOU NOW?

press

YOU SURE HAVE SOME TRICKS UP YOUR SLEEVE

THIS IS...

OTOWA IS HEADING TO MY ROOM

Kanda...?

TRY PLAY-ING IT

Y-YEAH

TO HAVE MADE UP SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

COMPUTERS NOWADAYS CAN CHANGE VOICES.

KAN... DA...

I UNDER-STAND WHAT BOTH OF YOU HAVE SAID.

HUH

CASE 2:
The truth behind the attack at the track club

GOKO KUJI...

THE EXISTENCE OF A MASTERMIND HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED FROM THIS CASE.

HOWEVER THE FACT THAT GOKOKUJI HIT KANDA HAS NOT CHANGED.

BUT EVIDENCE SUPPORTING THIS IS STILL LACKING.

SO, HE IS STILL GUILTY.

NEXT, TRACK CLUB MEMBERS, STEP FORWARD.

WHAT'S WRONG? JUST TELL US WHAT HAPPENED.

UH...

ENOUGH...

IF IT WAS GOING TO GO THIS FAR WE SHOULDN'T HAVE DONE IT...

SFX: BOW

I CAN'T TAKE THIS ANYMORE...!

THE PROOF THAT WE WERE ATTACKED-

WHO?

WE WERE JUST DOING WHAT KUDAN TOLD US TO!

THAT IS...

IT'S OBVIOUSLY POINTLESS TO ASK THE PEOPLE WHO WERE ATTACKED.

KASUGA AND TSUBAKIYAMA ARE INNOCENT
WHETHER OR NOT WE CHOOSE TO DRAMATIZE THE SITUATION OF THE VICTIMS
IT MIGHT BE THAT YOU WERE THE ONE WHO THREATENED THEM, TOO
EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE THE ONE WHO TOLD THEM TO DO IT,
I SUPPOSE WE SHOULD BE GLAD THAT WE'RE NO LONGER BEING SUSPECTED
I TOLD YOU...
How irritating!!
THAT'S WHAT I'VE BEEN SAYING SINCE THE BEGINNING!!
THAT'S RIGHT!!
MAKING IT SEEM LIKE IT WAS SOUTA'S FAULT— THERE WAS SOMEONE BEHIND THE SCENES PLANNING THIS
IT'S NOT THAT TAKERU HIT ME, BUT RATHER THAT HE CAME TO SAVE US—
CASE 3: Sengoku's imprisonment.
THAT WAS THE PLAN TO USE TAKERU TO TRAP ALL OF DORM ONE
IF THIS MAKES SENGOKU INNOCENT, THEN—
THE FACT THAT SENGOKU DID NOT HIT HONGOU—

GLARE

—DIDN'T YOU JUST HEAR IT WRONG?

THEN, WHO IS THE REAL CRIMINAL?

I THINK I MIGHT HAVE HEARD THE KANSAI DIALECT* WHILE I WAS HALF-CONSCIOUS

*NOTE: THE KANSAI DIALECT IS A GROUP OF JAPANESE DIALECTS IN THE KANSAI REGION (KINKI REGION) OF JAPAN. IT IS CHARACTERIZED AS BEING BOTH MORE MELODIC AND HARSHER THAN STANDARD JAPANESE

SEX TURN

AND SUSPICION POINTS TO HONGOU!

THE ONE THING WE'VE CONFIRMED FROM THE FIRST CASE IS THAT THERE IS A MASTERMIND

THEN, DO YOU HAVE PROOF THAT YOU AREN'T?

I'M THE MASTERMIND? DON'T BE STUPID.

THAT IS—

LAST CASE:
Is Hongou the mastermind?

THERE IS NO NEED FOR PROOF THAT HE ISN'T THE MASTER-MIND

...

BECAUSE I KNOW HONGOU-KUN IS NOT.

What?

YOU CAN TELL JUST BY LOOK-ING AT HIM

-Ha!
YOU CAN TELL JUST BY LOOKING, YOU SAY?
THAT'S HARDLY A VALID ARGUMENT.
BUT, I CAN TELL.
HERE WE ARE TRYING TO FIND THE TRUTH USING FACTS, AND NOW YOU GIVE US THIS?!
THAT'S RIGHT, DON'T MESS WITH US.

SFX STAND

HA

KANDA, LOOK ME IN THE EYES!
WHAT?
JUST LOOK AT ME
YES, YES...
HOW FRUSTRATING ...

WHAT IS IT?
ARE YOU SAYING YOU CAN'T TRUST ME?
I...
DON'T UNDER-STAND.
I DON'T KNOW IF YOU'RE LYING OR NOT...
...
THE ONLY THING I KNOW IS.
NOT ONLY YOU BUT TAKERASHI, OGAWA, AND THE TRACK CLUB TOO;
NONE OF YOU CAN LOOK ME STRAIGHT IN THE EYES
BUT EVEN IF YOU ARE LYING.
I KNOW I CAN BELIEVE THAT ALL OF YOU ARE DOING THIS FOR ME AND SATSUMA.
THAT'S ALL.
IT SEEMS LIKE KUDAN HAS COME UPON AN ANSWER BY HIMSELF.

SFX POW

WHY...

YOU...

ARE...

PLEASE STOP KUDAN...!

OTHER PEOPLE ARE WATCHING!!

IT'S FINE IF THEY LOOK...

KASUGA, TSURAKIYAMA, AND SENGOKU ARE ALSO OF COURSE INNOCENT OF THEIR CRIMES
AND WE WILL PUSH NO FURTHER REGARDING HONGOU
OTOWA, I WILL DO WHAT I CAN TO REVERSE THE PUNISHMENT PLACED ON GOKOKUJI.
I WILL WITHDRAW THE SECOND DORM FROM PARTICIPATING IN THE SPORTS FESTIVAL.
ABOVE ALL THAT, I APOLO-GIZE.
THERE IS NO NEED FOR THAT.

NO, I CANNOT REST EASY OTHER-WISE.
THAT IS...
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?
IF KUDAN SAYS SO, THEN I'LL DO IT.
WAIT KANDA.
NO ONE CAN STOP KUDAN WHEN HE'S LIKE THAT.
WE WIN BY DE-FAULT?
I'M SAYING THAT THIS IS NOT WHAT I WANT.

AAH.
THOSE WORDS THAT YOU SAID...
I BELIEVE THAT YOU MEANT THEM
EVEN IF THE SUFFERING WE EXPERIENCED AND THE GRUDGES WE HELD IN OUR PAST LIFE STILL REMAIN,
I'VE SAID SO BEFORE, KANDA...
IT'S STUPID TO BE CAUGHT UP IN OUR PAST LIVES.
THAT WAS THEN, THIS IS NOW...
IS ALSO TRUE.
THE FACT THAT WE ARE JUST PEOPLE TRYING TO LIVE OUT OUR CURRENT LIVES
Shoujo Sense

THE SHINSENGUMI WILL FORGET WHAT HAPPENED IN THIS CASE.
AS THE REPRESENTATIVE OF DORM 1, AS WELL AS BEING THE CHIEF OF THE SHINSENGUMI, I'LL SAY THIS
LET'S FIGHT FAIR AND SQUARE.
AND PARTICIPATE IN THE SPORTS FESTIVAL.
SO, THE SECOND DORM SHOULD FORGET IT, TOO,
glance

SORRY... I SAID THOSE THINGS WITHOUT ASKING ANYONE ELSE...
EVEN THOUGH YOU GUYS WERE THE ONES THAT SUFFERED
BUT... CAN YOU PLEASE FORGET WHAT HAPPENED...?
SFX RUN
I BELIEVE NOW THAT SUBARU IS KONDOU-SAN!
!!
STOP, WE'RE BOTH GUYS.
Although, the truth is... that I'm a girl...
BOTH GUYS?
I DON'T CARE ABOUT THAT...
MORE IMPORTANTLY, I LOVE YOU!!

Recently I've been growing more afraid of the me who is slowly forgetting that I am actually a girl
EH?
CAN YOU STOP IT WITH THE SHINSEN-GUMI THING?
FUFU.
TRUE... I DON'T REALLY WANNA THINK ABOUT IT, EITHER.
R-RAH!
SOUTA, GET AWAY FROM OTOWA.
AH SHUN, ARE YOU STARTING TO GET JEALOUS?
THAT'S NOT IT.
...!
U-WAH!
WAIT, SHUN!!
SFX: PULL

SFX SLAM
pant
pant
...
NO.
THIS ISN'T ...!?
I UNDER-STAND
AS HIJIKATA, YOU VALUE DISCIPLINE.
ISN'T THAT RIGHT?

I WON'T SLEEP !!

FOR SOME REASON, I AM REALLY TIRED.

I'M GOING TO BED.

AH, SHALL WE SLEEP TOGETHER AGAIN?

?

Why is he angry...?

バタン!!

SFX SLAM

...
SFX RA THUMP ZX
WHAT IS...
THIS...?